

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

LANGEVIN, Jim (Democrat)
Representative, 2nd District, Rhode Island
Elected 2000 to 107th Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congress



BACKGROUND

Born: Warwick, Rhode Island - 22 April 1964

Home: Warwick, Rhode Island

Marital status: Single

Religion: Roman Catholic

Education: Rhode Island College, B.S., 1990; Harvard University, M.P.A., 1994

Military: None

Profession: Public official

Political: RI House, 1989-95; RI Secretary of State, 1996-2000. Defeated Robert Tingle (R) with 62% of the vote to succeed Rep Bob Weygand (D), who ran unsuccessfully for the Senate.

Reelected in 2002 with 76% of the vote.

Rep Langevin is a moderate and member of the New Democrat Coalition. Opposes abortion rights; supports gun control; against landmines; advocates using federal budget surpluses to reduce the national debt; believed the President's FY02 budget was designed to accommodate a tax cut at the expense of critical programs. As a member of the HASC in the 107th Congress, his goals were to push for more defense dollars to increase pay for personnel, support improvements to quality of life issues (such as housing), force readiness, and insure all hardware was up to date and functioning properly. Expressed concern that the President's FY02 defense budget underfunded force readiness. Opposed the HASC-reported FY03 DoD auth language allowing the SECAF to close or restrict access to wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas outside the boundaries of the Utah Test and Training Range and Dugway Proving Grounds. Supported the Spratt amdt prohibiting the development or deployment of nuclear tipped ballistic missile interceptors and requiring congressional notification in advance of any future underground nuclear tests. Sponsored language in the FY03 DoD auth that would accelerate the US use of new land mines that pose less of a threat to civilians. Co-sponsored a bill (HR 4714) that rescinded the regulation requiring female military personnel to wear the abaya garment when traveling off the base in Saudi Arabia. Proposed legislation to study the feasibility and costs of implementing an emergency electronic communication system for Congress to ensure continuity of legislative operations in the event of an emergency. Opposed H.J.Res.114, authorizing the use of US military force against Iraq, stating that he instead supported the Spratt substitute that supported a multilateral approach to neutralizing the threat.

Additional Background: Paralyzed at the age of 16 in an accidental shooting while working with the Warwick Police Dept as a cadet in the Boy Scout Explorer program.

Rhode Island is home to the Naval War College, the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Raytheon, Northrop Grumman, Electric Boat, and other defense contractors.

Member: Air Force Caucus, Army Caucus, House Navy-Marine Corps Caucus; Reserve Components Caucus

AF Bases: Quonset State Airport (ANG)

COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES - Subcs on: Terrorism, Unconventional Threats & Capabilities; Projection Forces

HOMELAND SECURITY